

YALE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

310 CEDAR STREET
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20th May, 1953

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Dep't. of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

I learned from Dr. Treffers that you have been successful in utilizing resistance to streptothricin as a genetic marker in K-12 crosses, and that resistance to streptothricin does not confer any cross resistance to streptomycin. He also stated that the resistance to streptothricin arises as a single-step resistance to relatively high levels of drug.

Since the fermentative markers in *Serratia* have proven very difficult to work with, and since I need another non-selective marker on one of my parental strains, I should like to try streptothricin out with these organisms.

I should appreciate any information you can give me concerning the genetic characteristics of the drug resistance, if they differ from the streptomycin resistance picture, and also I should like to know where I might be able to obtain a supply of streptothricin for this work.

This additional non-selective marker will permit me to do the critical experiment of recombination of characters in *Serratia marcescens*, which to date is still hanging in the balance.

Thank you very much.

William L. Belser
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